

Hon. James T. Rapier.

The Second Congressional District of Alabama has shown a just appreciation of the merits of Hon. James T. Rapier, by electing him as its Representative in Congress. He has ever since reconstruction been an earnest and steady worker for the ascendancy of the Republican party in his State, even at the risk of his life. For his devotion to Republican principles he has been stripped of property and forced to flee from the land of his birth by the Ku-Klux Klan. His being an intelligent and enterprising colored man made him all the more distasteful to the untold white people of his neighborhood, and they left no means unused to drive him from their midst. Justice has been done the negro by giving him the ballot, and, remembering the services of Mr. Rapier, they show their appreciation by sending him to Congress. The groundless charge, of the Sunday Herald of this city, that Mr. Rapier had been a penitentiary convict is an emanation of negro hate. Mr. Rapier's character is, and has ever been, above reproach. The colored people of the country are certain to meet all sorts of disparagements at the hands of their late oppressors, in their onward and upward progress. Nevertheless, the progress will go on.

Osborne P. Anderson.

A meeting was held on Monday night of this week at the Nineteenth-street Baptist Church for the purpose of raising money to aid Osborne P. Anderson, a survivor of the noble band who composed John Brown's army of invasion of the State of Virginia. Mr. Anderson has been for several months an invalid in our midst, wholly unable to perform any kind of labor whereby he could get the means of support, and a few friends have been caring for him. As he engaged in a work, at the peril of his life, the result of which has been the emancipation of the slave, every colored person in the land should feel it an honor to contribute towards his care and comfort. The amount received at the meeting was not what it should have been. Mr. Anderson really needs assistance, and in view of the service he has rendered the cause of freedom, his friends should not be niggardly in rendering him all necessary aid. At this meeting speeches were made by Professor A. M. Green, Mr. Waring, Hon. Frederick Douglass, George T. Downing, W. E. Matthews, and Rev. D. W. Anderson. Resolutions of sympathy for Osborne P. Anderson were adopted, and a collection of fifty-five dollars taken up.

A Warning for Free Trade Republicans.

The only one of the nine Republican candidates for Congress in Iowa about whom there was ever any doubt, is Hon. A. R. Cotton, the present member from the Second District. But he seems to have squeezed through, though by the meagre majority of only about 350 votes. Two years ago he was elected by more than four thousand majority. At the last session of Congress, however, he chose to make himself especially zealous in favor of the humbug cry of "revenue reform," and made a forcible free trade speech. The consequence is that he merely escaped defeat in a district with an overwhelming Republican majority. If Western Republicans, of an ambitious turn of mind, are wise, they will shun the rock on which Cotton's fortunes were so nearly wrecked.

Lieut. Gov. Pinchback.

We had hoped for the election of this gentleman as Congressman at large from the State of Louisiana, and really do not doubt of his election by an honest count. Mr. Pinchback is probably one of the shrewdest of the colored politicians in the South, and one whose zeal in behalf of the best interest of his race has never been in question. The almost despotic power wielded by Governor Warmoth has made it possible for him to thwart the expressed wish of the people by undoubtedly counting Lieut. Gov. Pinchback out, thereby robbing the people of the State, colored and white, of a brave and energetic representative.

NEXT to the terrible drubbing the Greeley Tammany coalition received in New York, and the vindication of such true men as Senator Conkling, Hon. B. H. Duell, and Ellis Roberts, the defeat of Milo Goodrich, and his master Fenton are very pleasant incidents of the elections in that State. Goodrich obtained his election two years ago by an impudent threat to go over to the enemy if the Republicans did not nominate him. It was one of the most malicious and sneaking opponents of Grant in the Republican party from the time of his election. But he has received his reward, for his political career is ended. We congratulate the Republicans of the Tompkins district that they have got fairly rid of the shameless hypocrite, and have secured an honest representative in the person of Mr. Pratt, his successor.

Alexander Ferguson, Esq., who has for some time been the editor of the San Francisco Elevator, publishes his valedictory in the issue of the 9th instant. The paper will be continued under the supervision of Mr. P. A. Bell, its former able and energetic editor.

The Japanese are making rapid and extraordinary strides towards civilization and enlightenment. Intelligence from that country shows that religious freedom is to be allowed there.

The Sunday Chronicle has a comforting editorial for negro-hating restaurant keepers. Its sophistry is apparent throughout.

Lippincott's Magazine.

The December number of Lippincott's Magazine marks the conclusion of the tenth volume of that periodical. Its contents are fresh, varied, attractive, and informing. There are two illustrated articles descriptive of foreign scenery, manners, and adventure. The first of these is entitled "Searching for the Quinine Plant in Peru." The engravings which accompany it are numerous and characteristic, and are executed in a highly artistic manner. The other illustrated article is a contribution from the pen of Mrs. Fannie R. Feudge, describing in an easy and animated style a number of the most distinctive and curious sports and diversions of the Orient. It abounds in original information. "The Chapel of the Palms," by Charles Warren Stoddard, contains an admirable portrait of two youthful, self-sacrificing, and saintly missionaries, whose lives are devoted to the service of the rude and ignorant natives of Tahiti. The sweetness, delicacy, and sympathetic atmosphere with which the picture is drawn render it not only a pleasure to read, but a pleasure to look at.

only a vivid delineation of a noble phase of real life almost unknown to the popular reader, but also impart to it all the charms of an artless and perfect idyl. "Nurse and Patient," by Dr. S. Weir Mitchell, whose authority on matters touching the nervous constitution stands unrivaled, is a vigorous appeal in favor of professional nursing. The author dwells at much length upon the dangers to which those are exposed who, burdened with the weight of an anxious sympathy and trammelled by the fears, doubts, and ignorance which accompany inexperience, undertake the care of relatives suffering from prolonged, dangerous, or complicated maladies. His remarks upon the care of the insane are very pertinent and very just. "A Day or Two in Southside Virginia," by Richard B. Elder, is a light, humorous sketch, which serves as a vehicle for the expression of the author's conviction that there is much need of Northern capital and Northern enterprise in the lower counties of the Old Dominion. "Landowners in England," by Reginald Wynford, furnishes an attractive and concentrated description of the most obvious features of the land question in England, discourses briefly upon the policy of the great landholders, and abounds in personal references and anecdotes of an interesting character. The article in the present issue devoted to the "Private Art Collections of Philadelphia" forms the concluding chapter of the series, and, like its predecessors, is distinguished for critical ability, breadth of knowledge, and fluency of expression. The main attractions of the present issue in the domain of fiction are the concluding chapters of "The Strange Adventures of a Phœnix," and a short tale entitled "Her Story," from the pen of Harriet Prescott Spofford. The serial of Mr. Black has won for him many admirers, and is likely to increase the solidity of the foundation upon which his reputation as a novelist rests. "The Strange Adventures of a Phœnix," whilst possessing many of those qualities which rendered "A Daughter of Ithaca" so popular, has the additional advantage of being more engaging in its characters, and more wholesome in its tone. Mrs. Spofford's story is full of a painful interest which both fascinates and depresses the reader's mind. The heroine, who recounts to a friend the tale of her woes, is a delicate, sensitive woman, who has been goaded into insanity by the most galling of domestic wrongs. The accuracy with which the passionate feelings, wild fancies, profound grief, and confused hopes of the poor victim are developed, proves that Mrs. Spofford possesses unusual skill in morbid literary anatomy. There are only two poems in the present number, but both of them display more than ordinary merit. "Martins," by Emma Lazarus, is the product of a reflective and cultivated fancy, and does credit to its young and talented author. "Colima," by Albert S. Evans, is a pleasing sketch in verse, touched with a warmth of color appropriate to the subject. "Our Monthly Gossip," among a variety of timely notes and anecdotal pieces, contains some very interesting reminiscences of the Abbé Lestiboudis by the Lady Blanche Murphy.

The promises which are made concerning the new volume of the Magazine are of the most appetizing character. A new serial story by George MacDonald, entitled "Malcolm," and esteemed the masterpiece of its author, will constitute the leading attraction in the way of fiction. A profusion of beautiful illustrations, engraved in a highly artistic manner, will embellish each issue, and every department of the Magazine will be managed with a sedulous care and liberality of enterprise which can scarcely fail to secure an ample reward.

The Atlantic Monthly for December is at hand, filled with able and entertaining articles. "Peter's Musical Monthly" completes its tenth volume with the December number, and it is doing Mr. Peters but simple justice to state that his excellent magazine is improving with age. It was good years ago, when it first made its appearance, and it has been steadily improving until the present time, when it can only be pronounced perfect, and indispensable to every lover of music.

The December number, price 30 cents, contains three Ballads, a Christmas Song, an Anthem, a Four-hand Piece, as played at Theodore Thomas' Orchestral Concerts, and three splendid piano pieces, any single piece being worth in sheet-music form more than Mr. Peters asks for the entire lot.

Giving so much really good music for such a small sum, it is no wonder that *Peter's Musical Monthly* has hosts of friends among our musical-loving people. Those who have seen it will, of course, renew their subscription for the coming year; others, less fortunate, should send the publisher, J. L. Peters, 599 Broadway, New York, \$1, and secure the last four numbers as sample copies, or \$3 for a year's subscription.

Suicide.

Some of the scientific men of our day are trying to ascertain if a thoroughly sane person ever commits suicide. These gentlemen meet with difficulties, some of the chief of which arise from the impossibility of placing the suicides themselves on the witness stand. They find it impossible to get any but a superficial view of a self-destruction, and as to his mental status at the time he killed himself.

Some queer facts have been brought to light, however. One man had been told by a fortune teller that he would die within three weeks, and, having a great horror of death, he took a dose of strychnine to escape it. That man was clearly of unsound mind. His visit to the fortune teller showed that.

Another case almost the reverse of the above, occurred in Paris. A man went on a suicide climb up the parapet of a bridge over the Seine, and was about to jump into the river, when a sentry pointed his musket at him and threatened to shoot him dead unless he immediately came down. Singularly enough, this man at once came down, instead of staying on the parapet and achieving death at the hands of the sentry with whom he was talking. Was that man in his right mind?

A still more singular case was that of an old bachelor, who in a moment of weakness entered into a marriage engagement. On coming to what he called his right mind, this unfortunate man resolved to escape the consequences of his folly by committing self-destruction. This resolved, he had his razor aimed at his jugular vein, when word came that his fiancée had eloped with a younger and handsomer man. Here was unexpected relief, and the man, no longer a victim of a perturbed mind? Jealousy of his rival succeeded to horror of his betrothal, and after writing a plain statement of his grievances, the bachelor resumed his razor and cut his throat.

The pious clergymen who, when Chicago was burned, declared that fire was specially sent from Heaven to punish her for divorce and other crimes and iniquities, are now respectfully asked by the Chicago Tribune to account for the destruction by the same agency of the saintly city of Boston. "It is," says "Chicago," being a city of sinners, and Boston, being a good city, was punished in the same manner? Who will explain?

Stonewall Jackson.

His Study of Astrology, and Prediction as to His Death—A Strange Story.

BY GENERAL J. W. REVERE.

Arriving in New Orleans, in 1852, I was soon on my way up the Mississippi and Ohio. Among my fellow-passengers on the steamer was Lieutenant Thomas J. Jackson, of the United States Army, who seemed, at first, a remarkably quiet, although very intelligent officer, and with whom I soon became acquainted, for there is everywhere a sort of camaraderie among officers of the two services which attracts them to each other in the inland voyage continent, and our nights were partly spent upon the hurricane deck of the steamer, engaged in conversation. One of these conversations was so peculiar it fixed itself upon my memory, and subsequent events proved it worthy of record, although I hesitate to put in writing anything which seems to border so nearly on the marvelous.

One clear, starlight night, as we glided along the calm river, our conversation turned upon the firmament and its countless orbs that looked down upon us. Jackson asked me if I knew the exact position of the stars, and I replied that I did, although I had never studied the study of nautical astronomy, practiced by all naval officers, into the realms of astrology. I replied that I had always been interested, more or less, in those mathematical studies required in nautical calculations; and that, from the exact rules demanded for working the various problems of celestial navigation, sometimes, to amuse the idle hours of a sea life, worked out the natives of my shipmates. I had even taken Zadkiel's Almanac and used his rules, but without believing in the science of judicial astrology. Jackson, however, was not content with my explanation; it was evident that he had not decided fully within himself as to the truth or falsehood of this exploded science.

Before we parted at Pittsburgh, a day or two after this conversation, I had given Jackson the necessary data for calculating a horoscope, and in the course of a few months I received from him a letter, which I preserved, inclosing a scheme of my nativity. As any one who may have calculated these schemes by the rules must know, as horoscope may be interpreted in various, even contradictory terms, by different persons, and was an exception to the rule. The only reason I had for remembering it at all was that our destinies seemed to run in parallel lines, and so far it was remarkable. It was this peculiarity that caused Jackson to communicate with me, and the reason why I laid it carefully aside for so many years.

The several planets were placed in their respective houses above and below the horizon; and Saturn being near the meridian, and approaching a square with the moon, great danger was to be apprehended by the country, and the people, and the letter, or during the first days of May, 1863, which time the native ran great risk of life and fortune; but in case he survived the peril the ominous period would never again occur.

In his last letter Jackson says: "I have gone over these calculations several times, and have committed any fault it has not been in fact of a sinister or harsh execution of it, although such a policy was abundantly justified by facts and circumstances known to everybody, and by the boasts and threats of the State officers charged with supervising the process of re-election, and the fact that the return of the votes cast thereat. The character and the provisions of the registration, election, and other laws of the State of Louisiana, administered as they were then, and are now, by an unscrupulous Executive, rendered the most dangerous and perilous of this law of Congress. Without a check similar to this, there would have been no limit to his misconduct. Audacious to an extreme, regardless of the rights of the citizens and the Constitution and laws of the country, and uttering unbridled threats, and have carried the election, no matter what the vote against him. He was supported by a coalition with Governor Warmoth. They avowed it publicly that they were going to carry the State anyhow, and when they once had it they intended to keep it. How? By fraud, and by the use of force, and by the use of the most powerful and influential men of the State, he would have stopped at nothing to accomplish his purpose. It was this consideration which he offered to the State, and it was the justification they offered for entering into a coalition with Governor Warmoth. They avowed it publicly that they were going to carry the State anyhow, and when they once had it they intended to keep it. How? By fraud, and by the use of force, and by the use of the most powerful and influential men of the State, he would have stopped at nothing to accomplish his purpose. It was this consideration which he offered to the State, and it was the justification they offered for entering into a coalition with Governor Warmoth. 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